

SAINT BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH



109 West Main St. • PO Box 11 • Hedgesville, WV 25427

Phone: 304-754-7830 • Email: office@stbernadettewv.org

www.stbernadettewv.org

Office Hours: Mon—Thurs 10am—2pm; Fri 10am—12pm

Office is located in the Religious Education Building

ST. BERNADETTE DIRECTORY

Pastor, Rev. Fr. Aloysius Boh

Parish Secretary, Lynette Kammerer

Music Director, Linda Abrahamian

Sacristan, Kevin Ferrell
kevin.a.ferrell@gmail.com

Religious Ed., Deb Mackesy
reled@stbernadettewv.org

OCIA, Theresa Highlands
tcmulberry@aol.com

Finance Chairperson, Paul Guttman

Youth Ministry Coordinator, Linda Abrahamian

Maintenance, Joe Comer

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 9 AM & 11 AM

Saturday: 5 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM

Wednesday: 9 AM & 6 PM

Thursday—Friday: 9 AM

Adoration every Friday after 9 AM Mass
with Benediction at 12 NOON

1st Saturday: 9 AM Mass
Rosary immediately following

Confession

Wednesday: 5:20—5:50PM

Saturday: 4—4:45PM

Sunday: 8:15—8:45 AM
or by appointment

August 20, 2023

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Christ and the Canaanite Woman

Mission Statement:

St. Bernadette Catholic Church is a Christian community in the Catholic tradition following the direction of the Holy Spirit in building the kingdom of God and the church in Hedgesville and beyond. Through Word, Worship, Ministry, and Service we celebrate our common faith given in baptism. Grateful for our faith, we seek to grow in love toward all. "It is by your love for one another that everyone will recognize you as my disciples." —John 13:35

REFLECTION

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
Permit me to highlight three key messages in our readings for this 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Church Year A.

Firstly, we are instructed by the Prophet Isaiah in our first reading (Is 56:1,6-7) to “observe what is right, do what is just”.

Secondly, Saint Paul (Rom 11:13-15, 29-32) reminds us in our second reading that God’s blessings to us are permanent: “...the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable”.

Thirdly, Jesus in our gospel passage (Mt 15:21-28) reassures all of us, lost in sin, that He is at our service: “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel”.

These words and the other messages in our three readings must be a source of great inspiration and comfort for all of us who, like the Canaanite woman in the gospel, are at the feet of Jesus, pleading for His mercy.

The lesson from the Canaanite woman’s story is that we must pray without ceasing and do so with the same “great faith” shown by this woman. Her faith does not waiver simply because she is a foreigner – a Canaanite. It does not waiver when Jesus simply ignores her, refusing to acknowledge or even answer her. It does not waiver when the apostles ask that she be sent away and, thus, prevented from pestering Jesus. Her faith does not waiver even when Jesus tells her that He won’t throw the food of the children to the dogs.

With one voice, King David in our psalm for the day, and both the Prophet Isaiah in our first reading and the Apostle Paul in our second reading remind us that Our Creator is not a God for Israel alone. God will bring all to his “holy mountain” in Heaven. God will save “the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord”, who minister to Him; who love “the name of the Lord”; who become his servants. He will save “all who keep the sabbath free from profanation”; who observe God’s covenants. Our sacrifices shall find favor at God’s altar, and we shall dwell in Heaven, described by the Prophet Isaiah as “a house of prayer for all peoples”.

Saint Paul invites us to “glory” in the ministry that is ours. That ministry calls all of us who disobey God (sinners) and were once “Gentiles” (foreigners or pagans) to the faith to lead our lives in ways that will make non-believers “jealous” and envious to the point of imitating us in serving Christ. Saint Paul puts it in a beautiful way by suggesting that one good turn deserves another. The good turn the people of Israel did for all of us, Gentiles, by disobeying God deserves another from us. “They have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy”. For if their rejection led God to reconcile with the world, their acceptance of the faith can only lead to “life from the dead”.

The strong message we hear in all three readings is that God will show mercy to us if we call on Christ for mercy with the same “great faith” shown by the Canaanite woman. When we do, “God will have pity on us and bless us”, as King David says in the Psalm.

Another message is that we should open our hearts like Isaiah who had learnt in Babylon to open his heart and was now able to see good things in other peoples. He saw that the time had come to drop the barriers between peoples; whatever their tribe, race, or nation, they all shared the right to consider themselves God people. In His dialogue with the Canaanite woman in today’s gospel, Christ makes sure that his audience noted that he was not party to their prejudice. That she was not a Jew was not enough for Him to deny the woman what she wanted. Christ is telling us that we must work hard to do away with prejudices. Christ wants to remind us that it is unbecoming to deny people our love for no other reason than that we rank them among those we have cordoned off as not deserving our affection.

Let us pray for the grace to see our faith strengthened to the point that Jesus can also say to us, as He said to the Canaanite woman: “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” May God grant us the grace to remove the barriers of race, tribe, and nationality that divide us.

God bless you!

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.

Fr Boh (Pastor)

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Dear Parishioners of Saint Bernadette, welcome!

As usual, we welcome especially those who are worshipping with us for the first time. Thank you for choosing to worship with us this weekend. Know that you are always welcome. Welcome also to the new members of this parish family and those who have been away for some time for whatever reason.

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: I want to say that I was deeply touched with the attendance at all the Masses celebrated in our parish Church in honor of this solemnity. Thank you for taking your faith seriously.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 3811.00
Online Giving	\$ 782.65
Diocesan	\$ 35.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 137.00
Outreach.....	\$ 69.00

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD
A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP**

CONTINUED FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

I want to take a moment to recognize and thank all of you in the respective parish ministries for your service at Saint Bernadette. I know how much time, energy and love you put into each ministry here, and it's such a blessing to know that we can rely on you.

That said, I want to make an honest appeal to all parents and families in this parish to strongly encourage your son or daughter who is between the ages of 4th grade and high school to become an altar server at St. Bernadette Parish. It is an opportunity to be of service to others, to grow in respect and reverence for the things of God and become attentive to Jesus speaking in their hearts. As you read, may these words of Albert Einstein continue to ring in your ears: "Only a life spent in the service of others is a life worth living." Serving at the altar of the Lord is a great opportunity for children to participate in the life of our parish, and to grow in the understanding of the beautiful gift of the



WHAT'S GOING ON?

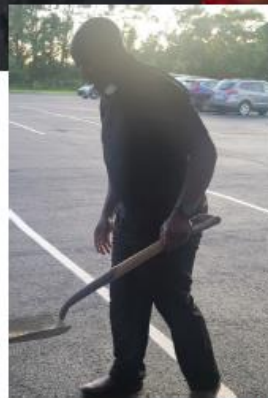
Thank you to everyone who helped with the Crab Feast. It was a great time with all who attended.



A special thank you to the kids that helped out this night. You made the evening special for many who participated.



Fr. Boh joined us and helped with the clean up.



There will be a **Religious Education teachers meeting on August 20th** after the 9 AM Mass in the Religious Education Building.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Mary Cordelli, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Ginger Spice, Walter Shenk, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley, Beverly Barrett, Tim Umrysz, Theresa Comer, Victoria Porter, Bob Baker, Theresa Highlands, Betty Beniot, Hank Chase, Freddy Highlands, Margaret Klover, Linda & Bernie Guy

Please keep the sick and homebound, and those that have no one to pray for them, in your thoughts and prayers. You may call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830 to add a name to our Prayer List.

WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, August 20th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Nestorine Boh

Tuesday, August 22nd

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

9:30 Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, August 23rd

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Thursday, August 24th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Friday, August 25th

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, August 26th

9—10:30 AM OCIA

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

6 PM Fr. Boh Birthday

Potluck

Sunday, August 27th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents must be registered with the Parish Office and must have regular attendance at Sunday Mass for at least six months and are required to attend a Preparation Class before the Baptism can be scheduled. To register for the Preparation Class, please call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Will be held Wednesday evening from 5:20—5:50 PM, Saturday 4—4:45 PM, and Sunday 8:15—8:45 AM. Confession is also available by appointment at anytime. Please call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

Order of Christian Initiation: The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults begins in August and ends in April. These classes are for members who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. If you need to receive Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion, and/or Confirmation, and are interested in attending OCIA, please call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830.

Sacrament of Marriage: Engaged couples planning to marry at St. Bernadette Catholic Church should be practicing Catholics, participating in Sunday Eucharist regularly. Also they must participate in a Marriage Preparation Program. Call the Parish Office for information. At least six months notice is required. No date for a wedding will be set over the phone.

Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound: When a Parishioner is confined to home or hospital because of illness or advanced age, call the Parish Office. We will be happy to make arrangements to bring Holy Communion.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Upon request and Communally as scheduled.

Parish Membership: We give a heartfelt welcome to all new people moving into our Parish. You can get a registration form from the Parish Office or you can register on our website at www.stbernadettewv.org. Those who plan to move from our Parish Community are asked to inform us.

St. Bernadette Pastoral Council: Pat Winkelman, Chairperson; Cindy Lathwell, Secretary; Members: Tom Bibby, Lynette Kammerer, Carol Sloan, Deb Mackesy, Jean Ridley, Linda Abrahamian, Maureen Sabol, Joe Comer, Paul Guttman, and Neil Shanholtzer

St. Bernadette Finance Ministry: Paul Guttman, Neil Shanholtzer, and Jeff Ferrell

Ministries: If you are interested in training for any of the following ministries: Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, Altar Server, or Usher, please contact the Parish Office.

Hospital Visits: Because of the HIPPA regulations, we are not notified when someone from our Parish is in the hospital. If you want a Priest to visit you, please contact the Parish Office yourself, have a close family member contact us, or ask someone at the hospital to contact us. Friends and neighbors do not make the decision for a Priest to visit the sick. It must be at the request of the family. If you are local, we can make the visit. If you are in Winchester, please let the hospital know that you want a priest or contact the local parish.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday 21st—St. Pius X, Pope; Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday 22nd—the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday 23rd—Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday 24th—St. Bartholomew, Apostle; Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145; Jn 1:45-51

Friday 25th—Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday 26th—Ru 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17; Ps 128; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday 27th—Is 22:19-23; Ps 138; Rom 11:22-36; Mt 16:13-20

SAFE ENVIRONMENT CARING FOR GOD'S CHILDREN

To report an incident of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888-434-6237 or 304-233-0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

Help Fill the Pantry 2023

August

School Supplies and Toiletries

School Supplies Needed:

*24 ct. Crayons, 12 ct. Colored Pencils, Glue Sticks, #2 Pencils,
Safety Scissors, Scissors, Pencil Bag, Wide Ruled Notebook
Paper, Composition Notebooks*

Toiletries Needed:

Toilet Paper, Tooth Paste, Soap (Bars), Paper Towels, Shampoo

September

Bread and Eggs

Additional Pantry items are always needed

*Pasta Sauce, Pasta, Canned Fruit, Soup, Peanut Butter,
Mac & Cheese, Canned Vegetables, Baked Beans, Rice, Syrup,
Pancake Mix, Cereal, Hamburger Helper*

***Monetary donations can be made to St. Bernadette
with Loaves and Fishes on the memo line.***

For more information contact:

Karen - 301-992-1368 or Bill - 571-216-9320

CHERUBS

Serving Elementary and Intermediate School Aged Kids

Now that Covid restrictions are in the past,
we'd like to re-vitalize the Cherubs Ministry.

This program is designed to work with our
younger congregation members and to help
teach them the servant's heart through special
activities and teachings.

If you are interested in your child/children participating in the
program, please reach out to Sarah Bleigh or Shanna Fisher
so that we can start to plan the activities accordingly.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Sarah Bleigh
304-886-9741

Shanna Fisher
240-382-9198

CHERUBS

Registration Form

Child's Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Medical Concerns/Allergies _____

Parent/Guardian (Name) _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Alt Number _____

Would you be interested in helping with the program? Yes/No

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Alt Number _____

Email Address _____

Place completed form in the collection basket or drop it off at the office.
There is a white drop box outside of the Religious Education Building.